

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS18527

This is a fiscal year 2009 supplemental appropriation to the Department of Agriculture in the amount of \$108,000 from dedicated funds. Funding is provided to enhance the Organic Food Inspection Program. The Department of Agriculture volunteered for the Governor's Zero-Based Budgeting initiative. They found that, among other things, the Organic Food Inspection Program required additional spending authority to expand services in this program. The market of organic certification has grown considerably in the last few years and this appropriation will help the department offer services to be competitive with other states' programs. Expanded services will be offered by internal staffing from the Fresh Fruits and Vegetables and Warehouse programs. No additional FTP are necessary.

FISCAL NOTE

This appropriation bill includes \$68,000 for personnel costs and \$40,000 for operating expenditures for a total of \$108,000 of ongoing spending authority from the Organic Food Product Fund.

Contact:

Name: Keith Bybee

Office: Budget and Policy Analysis

Phone: (208) 334-4739